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4/8/03

PATENT APPLICATION
Q62558

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
APR 4 2003
TC 1700

In re application of
TAKAO MORII, et al.
Appln. No.: 09/853,674
Confirmation No.: 6818
Filed: May 14, 2001
For: RADIAL TIRE

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Justin R. Fischer

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: April 2, 2003



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of a European Search Report dated February 21, 2003, corresponding to a counterpart foreign patent application (EP 01 30 4222).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Serial No. 09/853,674

Art Unit 1733
Q62558

merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier) and, therefore, Applicants are filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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